

## **Ledger Background:**

Lucius O. Doolittle was born December 27, 1832 in Vermont. He moved with his parents when 11 years old along the Erie Canal to Ohio and finally settled on a farm near Hayesville, Ashland County. Lucius attended Vermillion Institute and became a clerk in a dry goods store in Mansfield and Lexington, later becoming a partner in the store during the outbreak of the Civil War. On Sept. 9, 1861 he became a member of a newly organized Army militia organized in Mansfield and later moved to Columbus, OH. He enlisted as a Private and became Orderly Sergeant when the unit organized as Company D, Fifteenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry in Columbus. Recordings in the ledger started at this time. The ledger survived Company engagements at Shiloh where the unit suffered heavy loss, Pittsburg Landing, Lookout Mountain and Nashville. Lucius was later promoted through the ranks to Captain, and became Company Commander until December 1865 when entries to the ledger end and the unit mustered out of service in Texas. The ledger references entries for Companies C, D & G.

After service, like so many of the Company, Lucius returned to Richland County and again became a clerk and later an express agent and farmer. Lucius was a partner with a name in the ledger, Cryus Askew, in a dry goods business. He married Martha Watkinson on March 14, 1866 and they were the parents of seven children and fostered a nephew of Martha, the same age as their eldest son.

Lucius Doolittle was a life time member of the McLaughlin Post of the Grand Army of the Republic in Mansfield and the ledger remained in his possession until his death in Mansfield on March 3, 1922. The ledger was then passed to his oldest son, Herbert O. Doolittle, who was a lifetime farmer in Madison Township. Upon his death, the ledger was passed to his oldest daughter, Ruby R. Doolittle, a prominent grade school teacher in the Mansfield School District. Upon her death on August 19, 1981, I inherited the ledger from my Aunt Ruby and remains in my family possession to this day. The condition of the ledger (leather bound, 12 ½ inches high x 8" wide with 228 pages) is fair/ good, but failing as the years progress.

It is my hope that by posting the ledger, more will benefit from its content and it will be preserved for many generations Richland County genealogical research. My thanks to Amy and the Richland County Rootsweb Site for providing the guidance and means to post this valuable document.

Jim  
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